



# **Extreme Thermal Environmental Tests Of Plastic Encapsulated COTS**

**Q. Kim, J. O. Okuno, K. C. Evans, D. Knudson,  
D. T. Mih, R. D. Gerke, and M.A. Sandor**

**Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
California Institute Technology  
Pasadena, CA 91109**

# **Presentation outline**

- **Motivation**
- **Objectives**
- **Samples**
- **Sample pre-Examinations**
- **Test Methods**
- **Sample post-Examinations**
- **Conclusions**

## **Motivation**

- **To understand the limits of the long-term reliability problems of the improved plastic encapsulated microelectronic COTS parts especially in extreme thermal cycle environments.**
- **To evaluate the nondestructive C-SAM technique whether the technique can be used as a potential faster, cheaper, and better method for ways to detect failure mechanism and perform device package qualification.**

## **Objectives**

**Provide parts engineering risk analysis to NASA flight programs/instruments through:**

- **The performance of evaluations and tests on high risk COTS parts/packages**
- **Identify risks associated with very low temperature applications**
- **Development of new methods to ascertain risk and performance of parts under extreme space environments**
- **Development of means to reduce cost of qualifying parts while insuring reliability and performance**

## **Samples Tested**

<b>MAAM12031</b>	<b>Qty 2 each,</b>
<b>EC-5117</b>	<b>Qty 2 each,</b>
<b>HMC194MSB</b>	<b>Qty 2 each,</b>
<b>OPA2340EM</b>	<b>Qty 2 each,</b>
<b>EC-5007</b>	<b>Qty 2 each,</b>
<b>RF2128P</b>	<b>Qty 2 each,</b>
<b>TL072A</b>	<b>Qty 1 each.</b>

# Visual Inspection

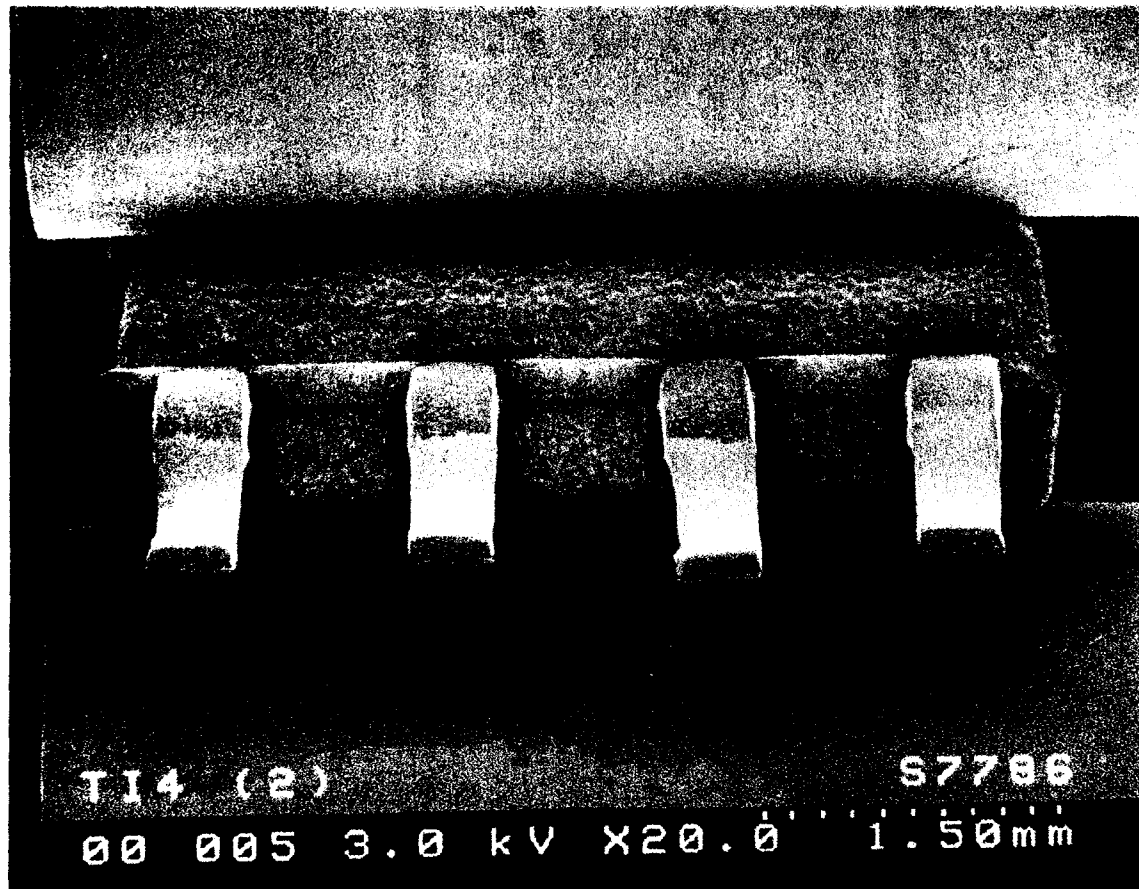
Top View



Bottom View

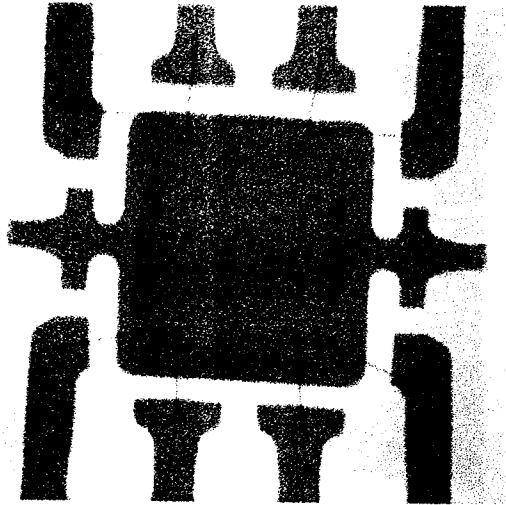


# Pre-Test Examination SEM

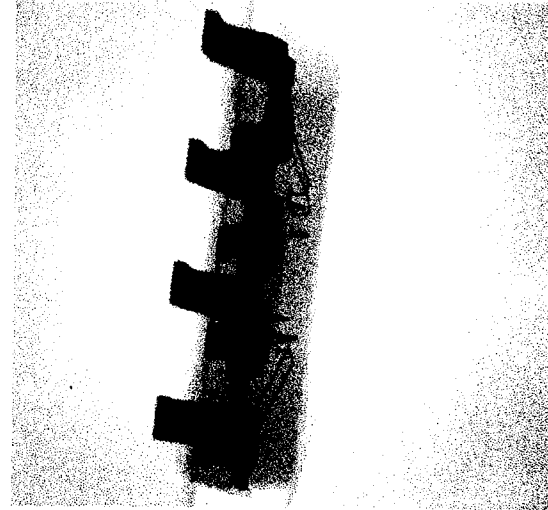


# Pretest Examination

## X-ray



**Top View**  
**TL072AC**



**Side View**  
**TL072AC**

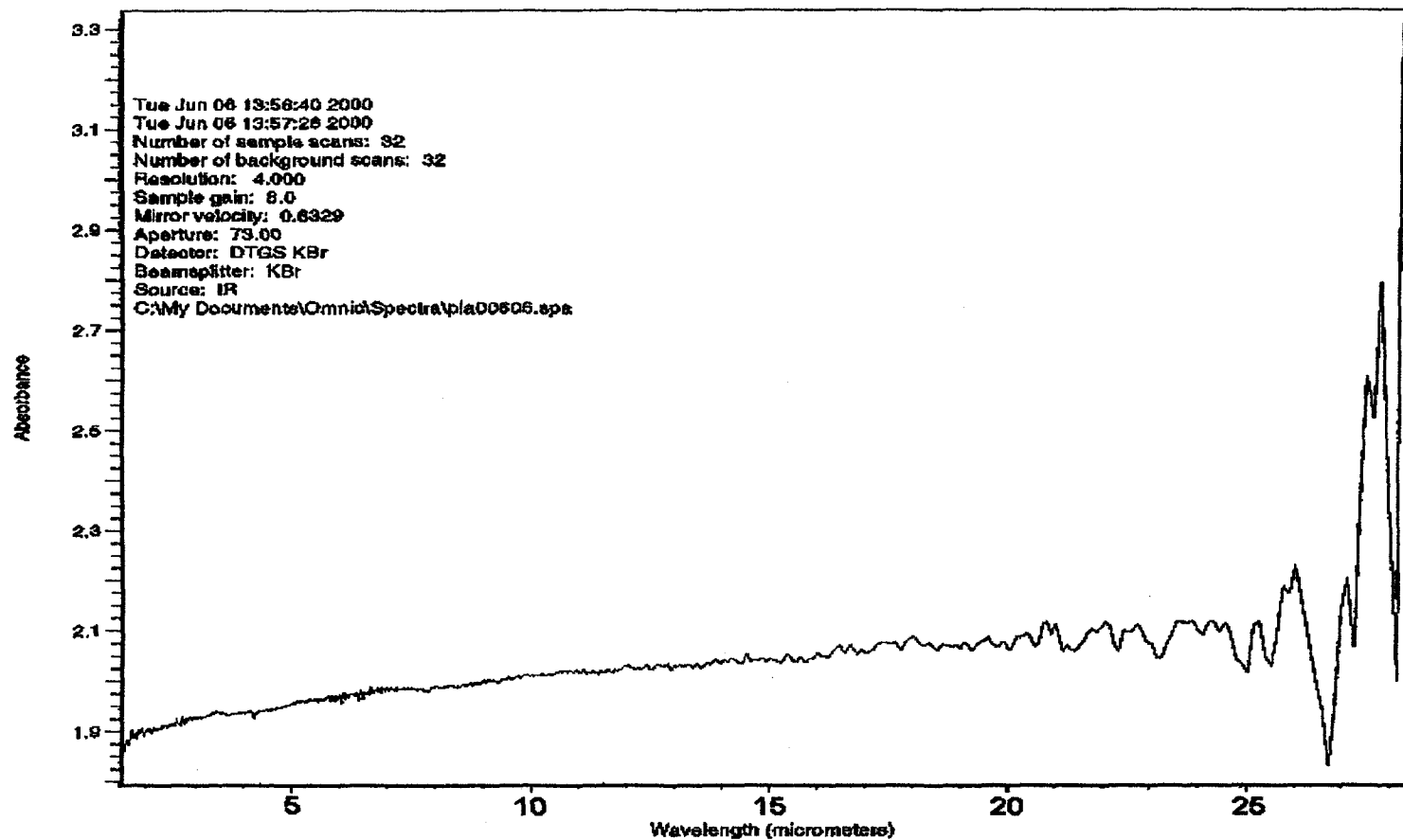
**Bird-Eye View**  
**TL072AC**





# Encapsulated plastic material characteristics

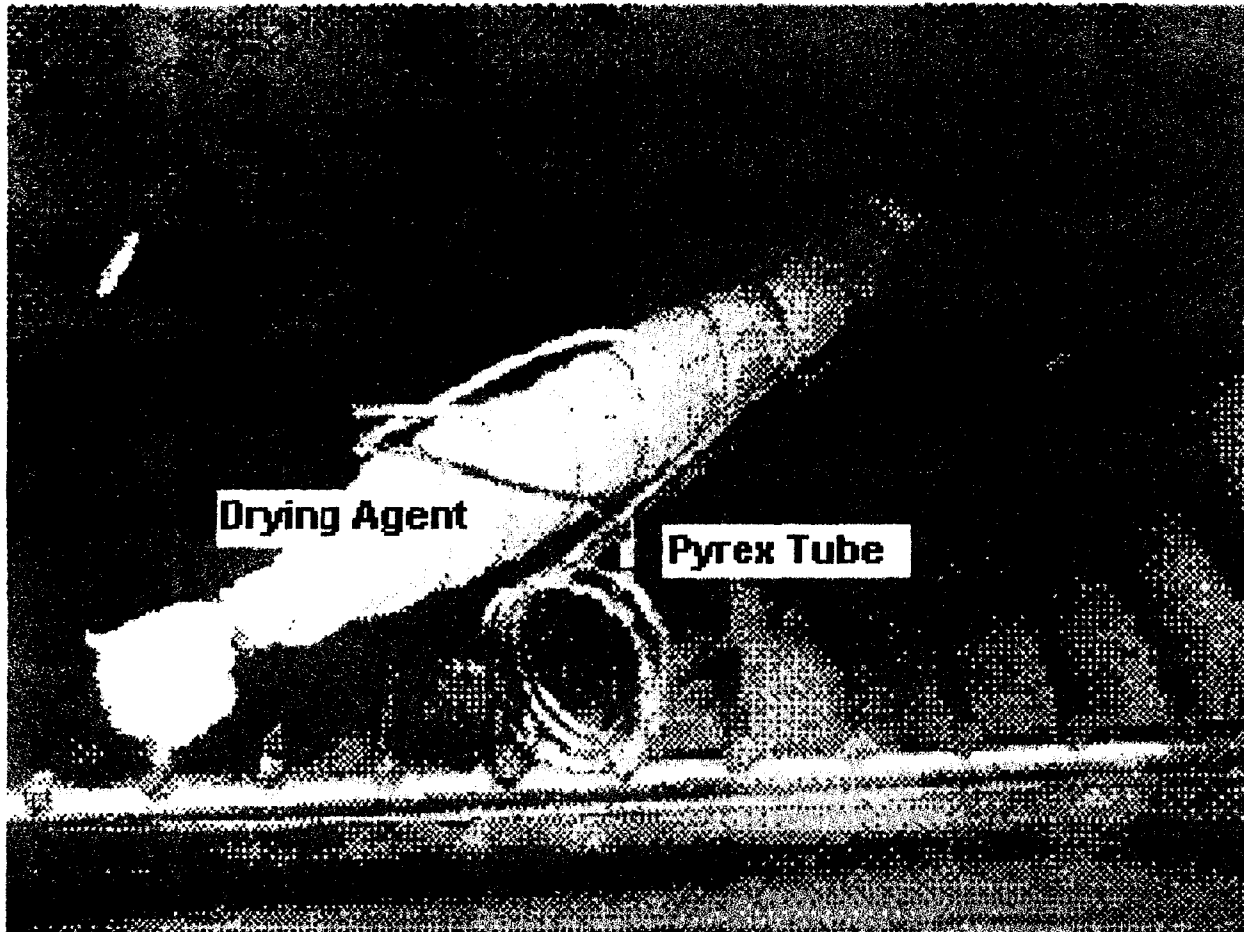
## Absorption Spectrum



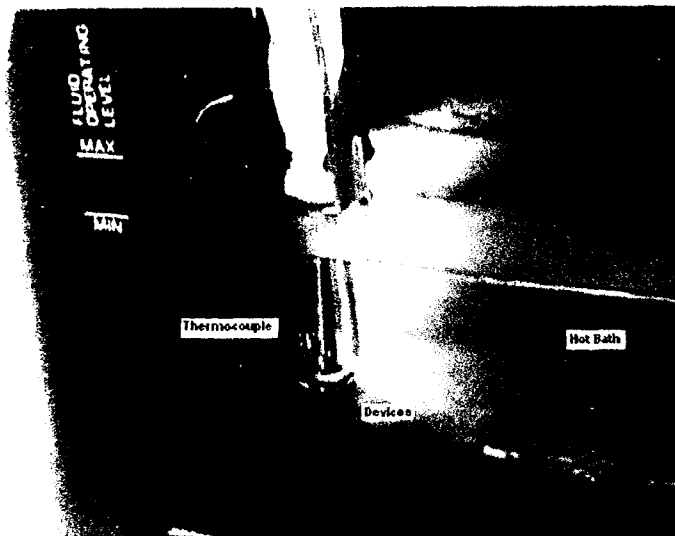
## **Test Methods**

- 1. Temperature ramp rate was maintained to be 2.5 min/cycle. The tube was slowly dipped into the hot oil bath (135°C).**
- 2. Once the thermocouple reading was reached to a level of saturation, the tube was taken out and dip slowly into the liquid nitrogen bath until the thermocouple reads -185 ° C.**
- 3. Repeat the procedures of 1 and 2 for 29 times more. Examine the package at room temperature by a microscope and a SEM, at step 1 until 30 cycles are completed.**

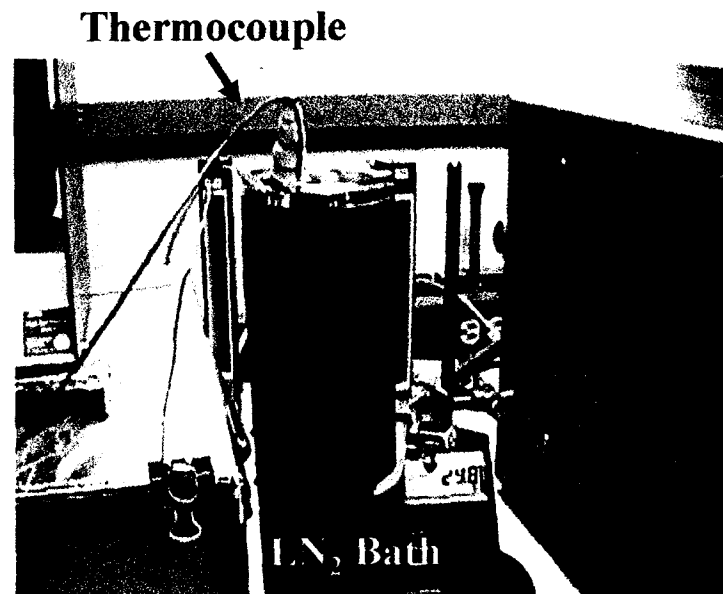
# Sample Preparation



## Test Set-up

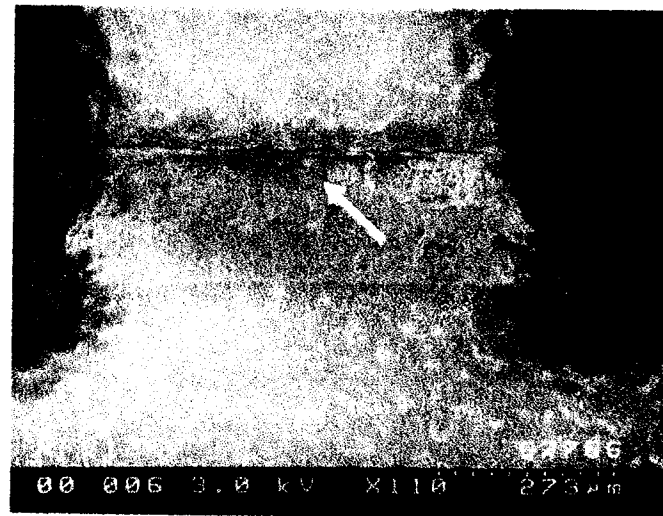
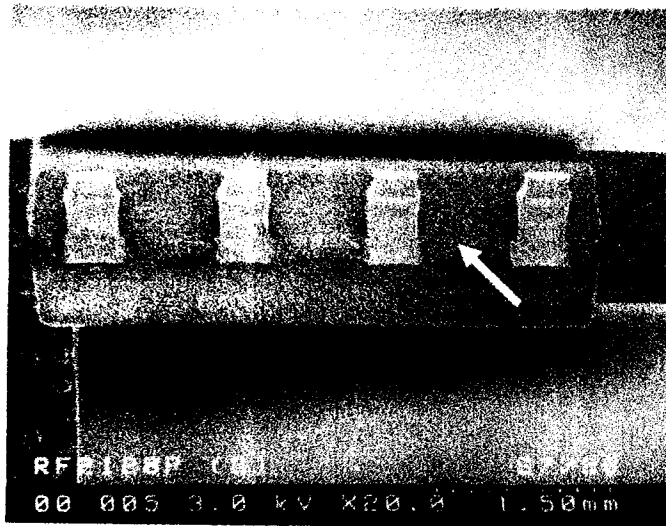


**Hot Bath**



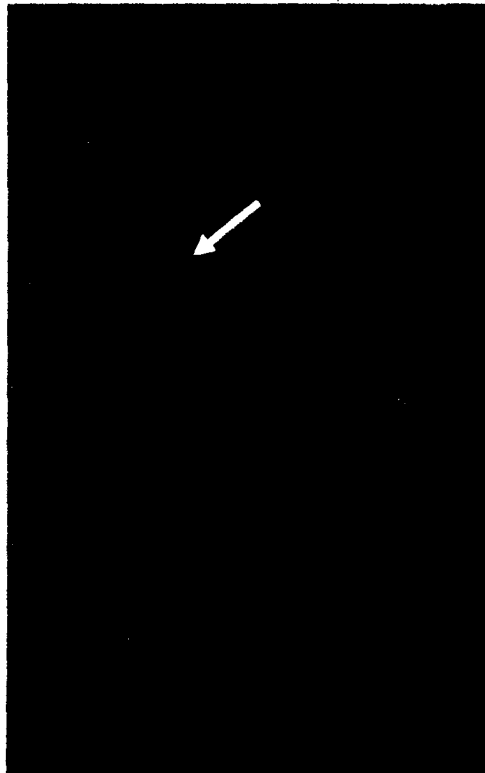
**Cold liquid nitrogen bath**

## Spectral Examination after the Tests

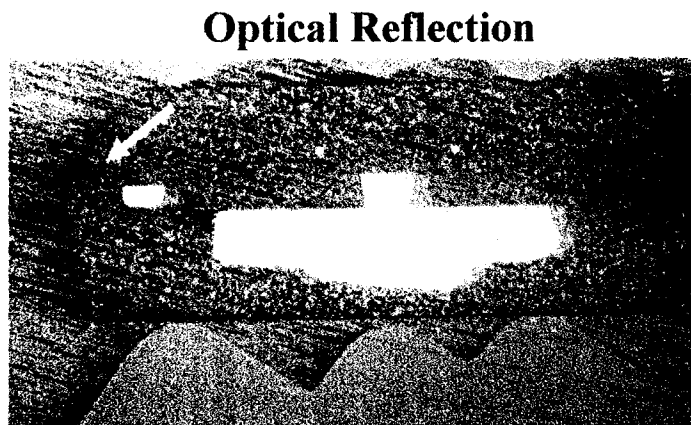


**A miniature crack observed after the extreme environmental tests.**

# Optical View of the Cross Section

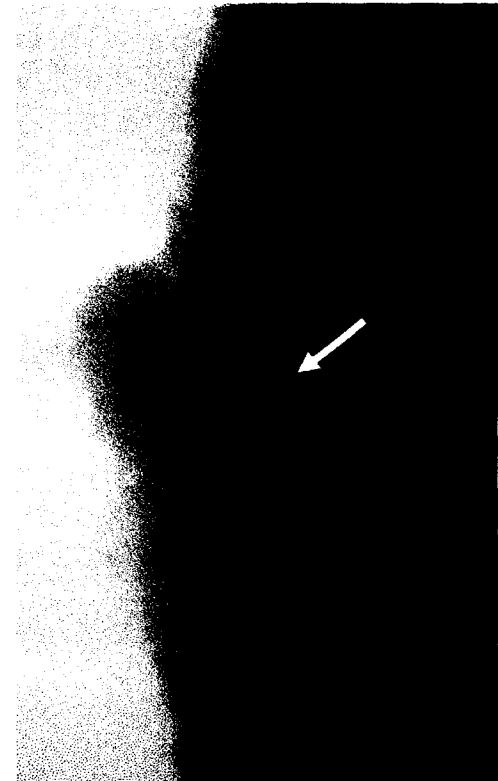


**Optical Fluorescence**  
**200X**

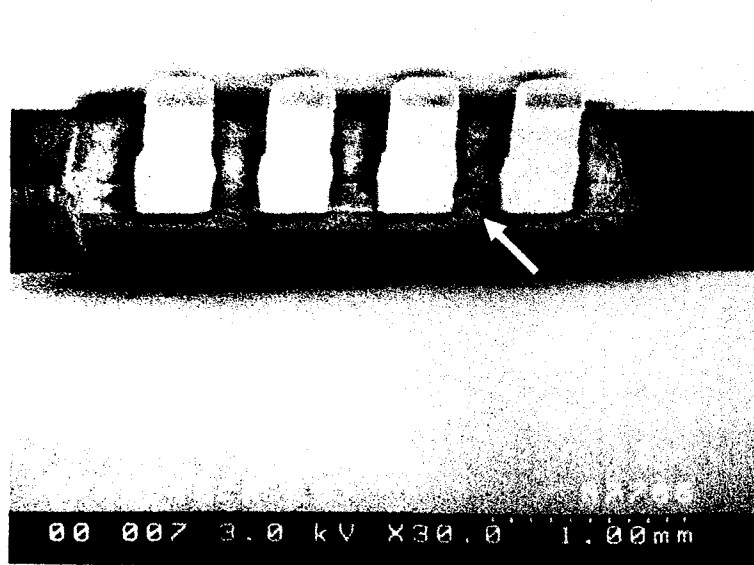


**Optical Reflection**

**Optical Fluorescence**  
**200X**

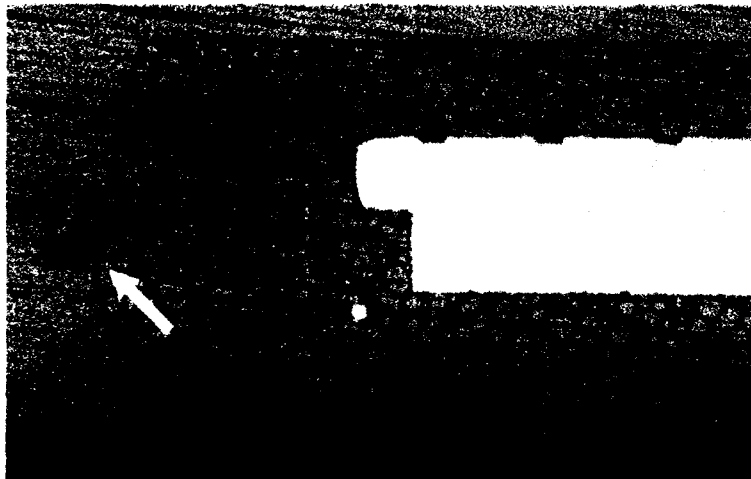


## Spectral Examination after the Tests

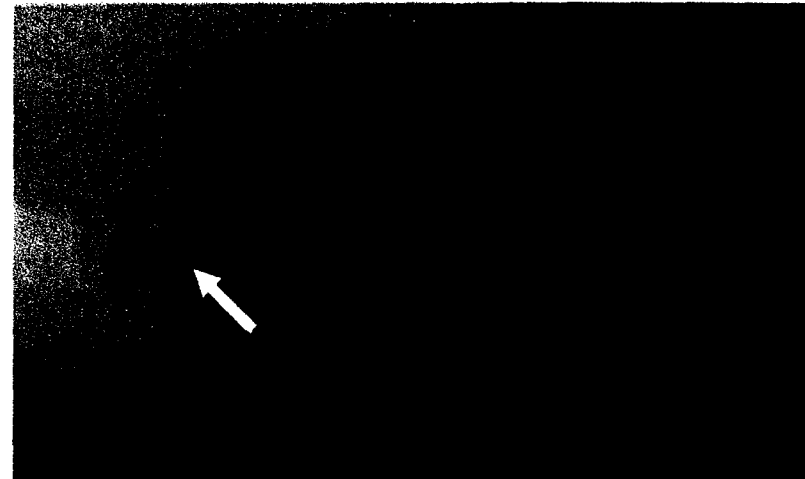


**A miniature crack observed after the extreme environmental tests.**

## Optical View of the Cross Section



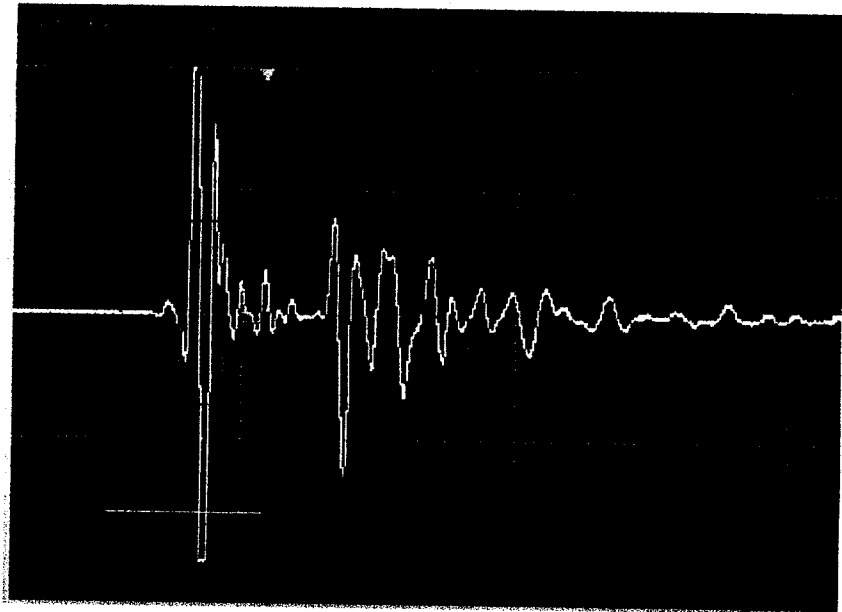
**Optical Reflection, 200X**



**Optical Fluorescence, 200X**

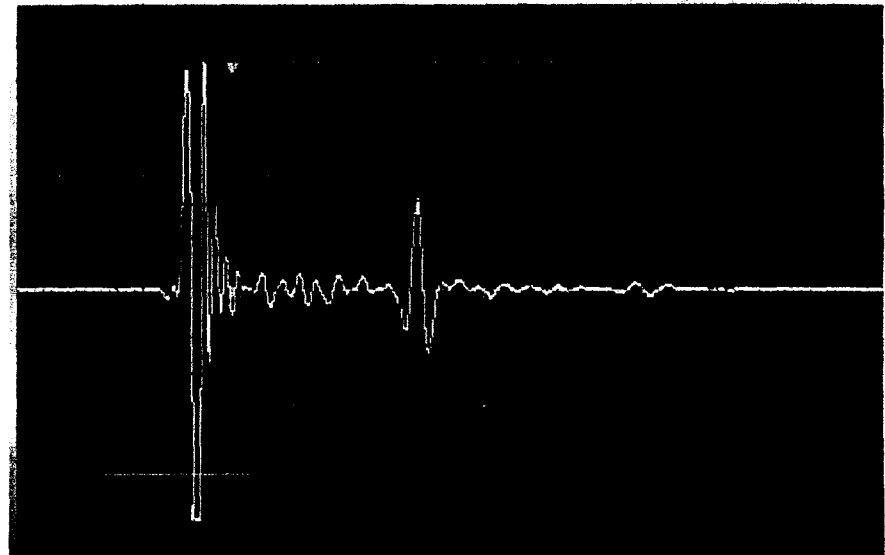
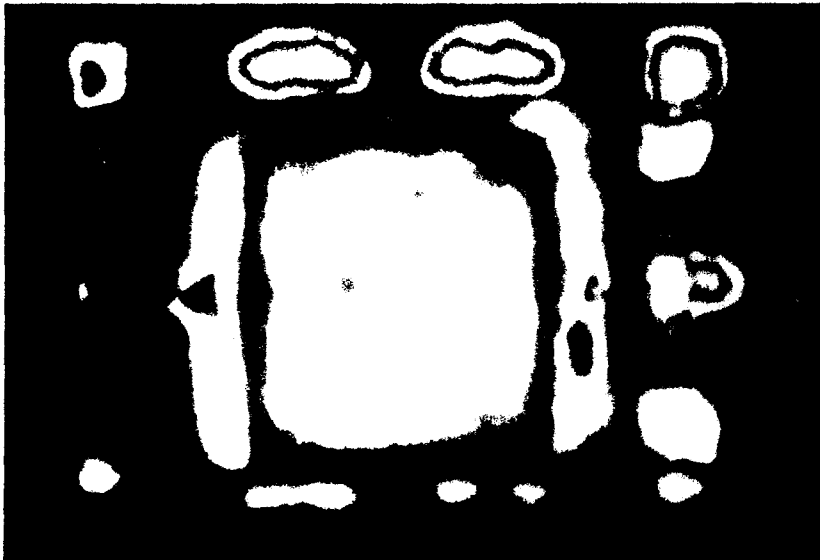


## A Typical Image by C-SAM (1)



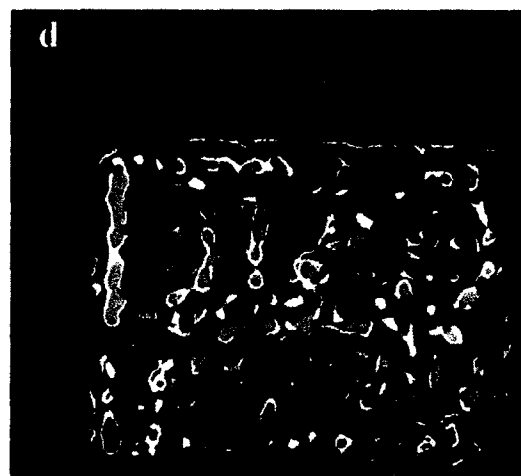
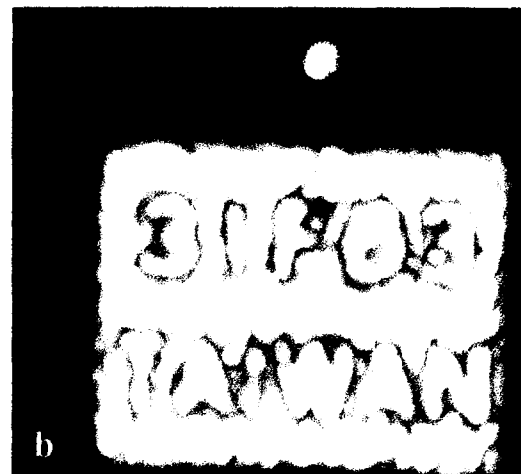
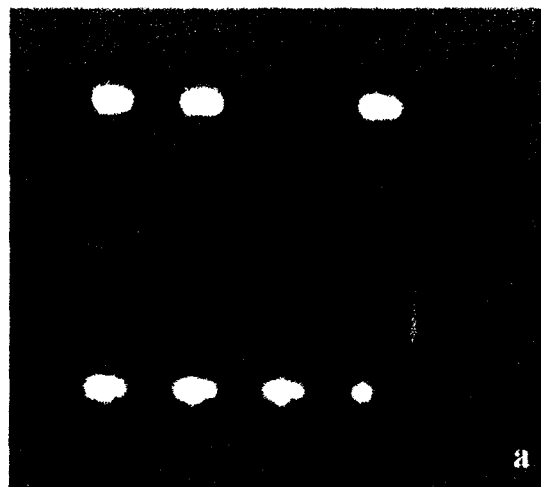
**Acoustic wave reflection through the device material should be thoroughly documented prior to apply the C-SAM image to Reliability.**

## A Typical Image by C-SAM (2)



**Acoustic wave reflection through the device material should be thoroughly documented prior to apply the C-SAM image to Reliability.**

# Various Images Generated by Different Reflected Acoustic Waves



## **Conclusions**

- **To our surprise, no defects or cracks were observed on ten (10) of the twelve samples. However, two (2) of the tested samples showed some indication of the miniature cracks as observed by SEM.**
- **C-mode Scanning Acoustic Microscope (C-SAM) can be an excellent non-destructive quality assurance tool to back up some electronic parts assurance if it is used consistently under proper guidelines.**
- **Some improved plastic microelectronic parts can be used even in extreme space environments.**

## **Acknowledgements**

**The research described in this report was carried out <sup>at</sup> by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, under a contract with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.**

**Reference herein to any specific commercial product, process, or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise, does not constitute or imply endorsement by the United States Government or the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology.**